

Customer No.: 31561
Application No.: 10/709,057
Docket No.: 11122-US-PA

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(p)(5) because they fail to show reference numerals for lenses 212a, 212b, and 212c.

The specification is objected to due to several informalities.

Claim 8 is objected to due to an informality. Due to the fact that "the uncovered portion" in Claim 8 is not defined as an element; therefore, the objection to antecedent basis for "the uncovered portion" is moot.

Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myers (US-6,330,111, hereinafter "Myers") in view of Hayashi et al. (US 2004/0175562, hereinafter "Hayashi").

After traversing of the rejections, Claims 1-19 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Discussion of Objections to the Disclosure

The "cylindrical spherical lens" described in Paragraph [0038] of the present invention, once are corrected by showing the appropriate reference numerals in the amended FIG. 3, shall be well-interpreted by a person skilled in the art to be a lens of the shape of "cylindrical spherical lens" in the form of the first lens 212a, the second lens 212b, and the third lens 212c shown in amended FIG. 3. As a result, the amended FIG. 3 including 212a, 212b, and 212c shall overcome the the objections with respect to clarity of the "cylindrical spherical lens" in Paragraph [0038] of the present invention.

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The reference number "208" is amended to "308" in Paragraph [0039] to overcome the respective objection.

Discussion of Objections to Drawings

The drawings FIGs. 3 & 5 has been amended to properly show the reference numerals for the lenses 212a, 212b, and 212c. The above changes are fully supported in the disclosure in Paragraph [0038] of the present invention. Therefore, no new matter is introduced. The corrected drawing sheets of FIGs. 3 and 5, labeled as "Replacement Sheet," are attached herein. Therefore, the amended FIGs. 3 and 5 shall overcome the objection to the drawings.

Discussion of Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to Claim 8 because of informalities regarding "the uncovered portion" in line 16 in Claim 8.

In response to the aforementioned claim objection, "the uncovered portion" in line 16 in Claim 8 is amended to "an uncovered portion". As a result, the above claim objection to Claim 8 should be withdrawn.

Discussion of the claim rejection under 35 USC 103

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Myers (US-6,330,111, hereinafter "Myers") in view of Hayashi et al. (US 2004/0175562, hereinafter "Hayashi").

With regard to the 103(a) rejections of Claims 1-7, Applicants respectfully

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traverse the 103(a) rejections based upon the following:

In regards to Claim 1, the following elements are not taught in Myers nor Hayashi: "a holder" and "a plurality of supporting elements".

In regard to "a holder", Myers teaches using honeycomb or hexagonal cells 11 in FIGs. 4A-4B in Myers for mounting the LEDs. On the other hand, the holder 100 of the present invention is shown in FIG 1, and in Paragraph [0023] of the present invention. Therefore, the cells 11 in FIG. 4A are physically or structural different from the holder 100 in FIG. 1 as taught in the present invention.

In regards to "a plurality of supporting elements", the supporting reflectors 10 as alleged by the Examiner in the Office Action on page 3 to be equivalent to "a plurality of supporting elements" is used primarily for reflecting the light from the LEDs. Whereas, the supporting elements 112 of the present invention have distinct shapes and have specific primary support functions as is clearly shown in FIG. 1 of the present invention. In addition, they are shown to be of a completely different element from the reflector 110 in FIG. 1 of the present invention. Paragraph [0025] of the present invention describes the functions of the supporting elements 112 in details as follows: "The supporting elements 112 are set between the diffusion device 108 and the holder 100 for supporting the diffusion device 108. Here, a light-reflecting material can be selected to fabricate the supporting elements 112 so that supporting elements 112 also serves as a light-guide for channeling the light energy from the light-emitting diodes 102a, 102b, 102c into the diffusion device 108 besides a support for the diffusion device." Therefore, the "supporting elements" in Claim 1 are not taught in Myers or Hayashi.

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Table 1. Summary of the patentable features and limitations in Claim 1 over Myers in view of Hayashi.

The Present Invention	Myers in view of Hayashi	Comments
holder 100 in FIG. 1	cells 11 in FIG. 4A	Structurally Different
supporting elements 112 in FIG. 1 – serves as a light-guide & for supporting the diffusion device 108	supporting reflectors 10 in page 3 of Office Action - reflecting light from the LEDs	Functionally Different and Structurally Different
reflector 110 in FIG. 1		Not taught in Myers / Hayashi
100 perpendicular and coupled to 110		Not taught in Myers / Hayashi
112 is disposed on 100	11 is <u>part of</u> 10 in Myers	Relationally Different
110 forms a boundary to enclose a plurality of 112 in FIG. 1		Not taught in Myers / Hayashi

Based on the aforementioned traversing of the “holder” and the “support elements”, Claim 1 is patentable over Myers in view of Hayashi, and should be allowed.

Pending the allowance of independent Claim 1, dependent Claims 2-7 should also be allowed.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending Claims 1-19 of the present application patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,

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